Registered No. M-4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Vol. II | Friday, July 11, 1941 | Issue No. 28

DIARY OF THE WAR

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

4th July.—The Royal Air Force bombed Bremen and raided Essen where the Krupps works were set on fire.

Sixteen Nazi fighters were destroyed in operations over Northern France.

5th July.—The enemy naval bases of Brest and L'Orient were heavily attacked by Royal Air Force bombers.

Three German planes were destroyed during small-scale raids over Britain.

6th July.—Three German bombers were shot down over England. Bombs were dropped in the Midlands and South Wales but there was no great damage.

The German industrial town of Magdeburg, only 80 miles from Berlin, was severely damaged in a Royal Air Force raid. Many enemy vessels were sunk in the North Sea.

7th July.—The Royal Air Force in their sweep over Northern France attacked aircraft works and shot down seven enemy fighters.

Six ships in an enemy convoy were bombed by British aircraft.

8th July.—The German News Agency admitted heavy damage by the Royal Air Force in Western Germany; Belgium, France and Holland were also raided.

Five Nazi planes were shot down when the German air force raided Southampton.

9th July.—The Royal Air Force in their offensive over Germany, attacked the town and railway yards of Hamm, dropped explosives and incendiary bombs over Munster, damaged communications in the industrial town of Bielfeld and raided an important synthetic oil plant at Leuna. The harbour at Haugesund was also bombed as also Bethune and the naval base at Wilhelmshaven.

Thirteen enemy planes were destroyed during these operations.

Five Nazi planes were shot down when they raided the Midlands.

10th July.—The Royal Air Force raided the German industrial towns of Aachen, Osnabruck, Bielfeld and Munster. Lille was bombed (twice) as also Ostend. Six enemy ships, totalling 20,000 tons, were bombed and sunk at Cherbourg and Le Havre.

Thirteen enemy aircraft were destroyed.

AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

4th July.—General Gazzera, Chief of the Italian forces in the province of Galla Sidamo, surrendered to the British forces in Abyssinia.

5th July.—General Wavell revealed to press correspondents that the defences of the Middle East were in " a pretty satisfatcory state ".

6th July.—It was announced that a British submarine sank an Italian cruiser (10,000 tons) in the Mediterranean.

The Royal Air Force made heavy raids on the enemy's Libyan bases of Derna and Benghazi.

Nine more Italian Generals surrendered in Abyssinia, along with 5,000 soldiers.

7th July.—Only slight damage was caused when enemy planes raided Malta and Alexandria.

The Royal Air Force made a particularly successful attack on Palermo in the island of Sicily when a number of enemy ships were set on fire.

8th July.—Planes of the British Fleet Air Arm sank a German submarine off Gibraltar. The Royal Air Force bombed Tripoli.

A large contingent of South African troops reached North Africa for active service.

10th July.—The Italian High Command admitted raids by British aircraft on Syracuse and Naples. Italian float-planes were destroyed.

The Italian Government announced that the Italian casualties for the last 13 months were 235,360.

The Royal Air Force bombed Benghazi Derna and Gazzala.

AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

4th July.—"I tell the American people solemnly that the United States will never survive as a happy and prosperous oasis of liberty in the midst of a desert of dictatorships" said President Roosevelt in his Independence Day broadcast to the nation.

All Canadian exports were ordered to be placed under control so as to send as much aid to Britain as possible.

5th July.—General Marshall, Chief of the United States Army Staff, announced that United States overseas garrisons had been more than doubled so as to keep American defences in readiness.

6th July.—Hostilities broke out between Ecuador and Peru owing to a frontier dispute.

7th July.—The United States Navy Department asked for a further appropriation of 585 million dollars to augment its ship-building programme.

President Roosevelt, in a message to Congress, announced that American troops had taken over Iceland from the British forces. He said that the United States had no intention at all of interfering with the sovereignty of Iceland.

General Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East, stated that American man-power might be needed in bringing the war to a rapid and decisive conclusion.

8th July.—Mr. Roosevelt stated at a Press Conference there would be no hemispheric boundary on United States defence operations. All U.S. Air Corps reserve officers were ordered to active duty.

Chile offered to mediate in the Peru-Ecuador dispute.

9th July.—Mr. Winston Churchill declared in the House of Commons that the military occupation of Iceland by the United States was of first-rate political and strategic importance.

It was stated that President Roosevelt would shortly ask Congress for an additional appropriation for Defence and Lease and Lend operations.

Mr. Wendell Willkie urged the establishment of United States military bases in Northern Ireland and Scotland.

The United States, Argentina and Brazil asked Peru and Ecuador to establish a "No Man's Land" between their armies in order to facilitate negotiations.

10th July.—Mr. Roosevelt received the Soviet Ambassador, M. Oumansky, who gave the President "Good news" about the Russo-German war.

The Premier of Northern Ireland expressed willingness to afford facilities for the construction of United States bases in Ireland.

Mr. Roosevelt asked Congress for a further appropriation of 4,770 million dollars for the War Department.

RUSSIA

4th July.—Stiff resistance was offered to Nazi advance in the Dvinsk, Bobruisk, Roono and Tornopol sectors. A Berlin communique stated that the Germans were driving towards Kiev and that the "Stalin Line" was being approached.

5th July.—A German High Command communique announced that Germans had reached the river Dnieper and that Kolomea and Stanisla were captured.

In the "Battle of the Rivers", the Russians claimed to hold the Beresina.

6th July.—According to a German communique, 5,000 Soviet lorries were destroyed and some islands on the outskirts of Russian defensive positions round Hangoe were occupied by Finnish troops.

Counter-attacks by the Red Army, with guerillas active in the rear, held up the main Nazi advance.

7th July.—Two German destroyers were sunk in the Gulf of Riga and a German submarine was destroyed in the Gulf of Finland.

Russian troops repelled German attacks with heavy losses in the Ostrov, Lepel, and Novograd-Volynsk sectors. German land attacks definitely slowed down and the Germans were hurled back across Dvina River.

8th July.—A Soviet Military Mission arrived in London.

M. Litvinov, former Soviet Commissar for Foreign Affairs, broadcasting to Britain, declared that Hitler should not have a moment's respite.

Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, said that plans for aid to the Soviet were proceeding rapidly and effectively.

While the German Radio claimed to have broken the Stalin Line at several points, the Russians reported the destruction of at least 7,000 German troops and the capture of 15,000 in one engagement when German tanks were allowed to advance seven miles and then isolated and destroyed.

The German paper *Angriff* reported that the Russians had destroyed Minsk before evacuating it, thus carrying out M. Stalin's directions to leave only "scorched earth" behind.

9th July.—The Red Army inflicted a big defeat on the German mechanised forces in the Lepel sector. It was reported that two

German motorised regiments were destroyed, that 102 German planes were destroyed against the loss of 10 Soviet planes, and, that the Russians still held the German drive directed at Kiev. Soviet bombers raided Helsinki.

The Germans claimed the occupation of Besserabia.

M. Stalin received the British Ambassador, Sir Stafford Cripps. The Russian military mission in London was received by Mr. Eden and Captain Margesson.

10th July.—The Russians wiped out a German motorised division in the Lepel sector; the Soviet Air Force destroyed 100 German tanks; the Russians inflicted a serious defeat on the Germans in the Borisov sector; enemy attacks in the Novogrod-Volynsk sector were halted; the Russian Air Force bombed the Rumanian port of Constanza; and Russian parachutists were dropped in the outskirts of Helsinki.

The German High Command announced the capture of Salla on the Finnish front.

The Russian military mission in London was received by Mr. A. V. Alexander and Sir Archibald Sinclair.

BALKANS, TURKEY, IRAQ, IRAN, ETC.

4th July.—In Syria Indian troops occupied Deir ez Zor.

5th July.—Aircraft of the Imperial Air Forces attacked Vichy aerodromes, shipping and other military targets and severely damaged them.

In Syria the Allies crossed Damour River and occupied Rhariff between Damascus and the coast.

6th July.—The Allies closed in on Beirut, Vichy's key-port on the Lebanese coast.

The British and Free French forces captured the strategic village of El Boum.

8th July.—While the vital battle for Beirut was about to commence, the British forces continued to advance from Deir ez Zor towards Homs.

The Turkish Government protested to Britain with regard to the Vichy vessel Saint Didier, which was attacked and sunk by British aircraft while abusing Turkish territorial waters and flying the Turkish flag. The vessel carried reinforcements and arms to Syria.

9th July.—General Dentz, French High Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief in Syria, sued for armistice.

The Imperial forces occupied Damour in Syria.

Mr. Churchill announced in the House of Commons that the defence of Iraq would be transferred to the Indian Command under General Wavell.

10th July.—British Imperial troops occupied Beirut after an ultimatum broadcast by General Wilson had expired. In the north-east Indian troops reached Kamechli adjoining the Istanbul-Bagdad railway.

The Italian News Agency reported that the Vichy Government had decided to reject the British terms for an armistice.

SHIPPING

7th July.—Britain recognized the transfer of Danish ships to a neutral flag, following conversations between British and American authorities in Washington. The British Government gratefully recognized that the use to which these ships were to be put would contribute directly to the war effort of the Democracies.

10th July.—It was announced that over 105,000 tons of enemy shipping were gravely damaged by British forces in the week ending July 7. At least 40,000 tons were sunk.

The Chief of the U.S. Naval Bureau of Ships said that America would be producing a hundred destroyers a year by 1943.

FAR EAST

4th July.—The Chinese Foreign Office notified the German News Agency in Chungking of the cancellation of their Press privileges; China had already broken off diplomatic relations with the Axis powers.

The western outskirts of Chungking were bombed by Japanese planes.

7th July.—Japanese naval planes raided Chungking and other points along the Yangtze.

8th July.—A scroll, carrying a message of appreciation of Mr. Churchill from 100,000 Chinese, was handed over in Shanghai for transmission to London.

The destruction of the British Embassy at Chungking was completed by raiding Japanese bombers.

10th July.—Dr. Wellington Koo, Chinese Ambassador in London, stated that China was determined to continue her struggle against Japan; her army was to-day larger, better equipped and more efficient in dealing with the Japanese.

VICHY

5th July.—The Vichy Cabinet met under the presidency of Marshal Petain to examine the report presented by M. Benoit Mechin, the Vichy envoy in Ankara.

Admiral Darlan announced measures to be taken to suppress communist activities.

9th July.—A message to the Independent French News Agency stated that the French Government were determined to carry out peace negotiations with Germany. Under the proposed Axis terms, added the message, Germany might get Alsace Lorraine, and certain Channel and North Sea ports, giving parts of Belgium to France.

10th July.—General de Gaulle, the Free French leader, arrived in Brazzaville, in French Congo.

General de Larminat, Commanding the Free French in Syria, was condemned to death (*in absentia*) at Vichy and all his property ordered to be confiscated.

The Vichy Government protested to the British Government against the sinking of the French ship Saint Didier off the Turkish coast.

A Vichy armed merchant ship of 6,000 tons and a trawler were interned in a Turkish port while fleeing from Beirut with troops and armaments.

OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

6th July.—On account of sustained opposition, the Nazis dissolved many Dutch organizations, including Roman Catholic and other religious parties.

A Bucharest despatch to the Vichy News Agency revealed Rumania's designs on areas in the Ukraine and her claim to *Lebensraum*.

8th July.—M. Maisky, Soviet Ambassador in London, and Gen. Sikorski, Polish Premier, were engaged in conversations aimed at restoring friendly relations between Russia and Poland.

10th July.—Mr. Roosevelt in a message to the President of the Polish Government in London expressed confidence that the Poles would regain their liberty as a result of their heroic struggle and sacrifice.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

8th July.—It was revealed that the international wireless installation at Tangier had been taken over by the Spanish Government.

All military leave was cancelled in Mexico "in view of the present emergency in the world situation, particularly the Americas."

10th July.—The Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs in a reply to a question in the Commons stated that the Spanish Government had apologized for their recent attack on the British Embassy at Madrid and the persons responsible had been appropriately punished.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 1st July 1941:—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during British patrols (not specifically mentioned) over West European coastal waters.

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
June 25, Wednesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on **Hazebrouck** (railway yards, ammunition train, bridges) and Longuenesse aerodrome, near St. Omer. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Kiel**; docks at **Bremen.** R.A.F. and Fleet Air Arm night bomber raid on invasion base at Boulogne.	5 day fighters. 1 day bomber. 1 night bomber.	13 day fighters.
June 26, Thursday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Kiel**; industrial objectives at **Cologne**, **Dusseldorf** and elsewhere in the Rhineland; aerodromes in occupied territory.	3 day fighters. 2 night bombers.	9 day fighters. 1 night fighter.
June 27, Friday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raids on **Lille** (steel and engineering works); aerodromes at Guines and elsewhere; troops and gunposts; shipping (3,000-ton merchantman sunk). R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Bremen** (factories and docks); Vulcan submarine and shipbuilding yards at **Vegesack**; docks at Emden, Wilhelmshaven, Cuxhaven and Oldenburg; invasion bases at Den Helder and Dunkirk. R.A.F. and Fleet Air Arm night bomber raid on invasion base at Calais.	9 day fighters (1 pilot safe). 12 night bombers.	8 day fighters (including 3 destroyed on ground).
June 28, Saturday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raid on Comines power station, near Lille. R.A.F. night bomber attacks on naval and merchant shipping off Dutch coast (merchantman on fire).	3 day fighters (1 pilot safe). 1 day bomber.	5 day fighters.
June 29, Sunday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France. R.A.F. night bomber raids on docks, shipyards and factories at **Hamburg** and **Bremen**; docks at Bremerhaven and Emden; invasion base at Den Helder.	11 night bombers.	..
June 30, Monday.	R.A.F. day bomber raids on docks at Bremen; railway yards at Oldenburg; naval base at Kiel; seaplane base at Sylt; docks and radio station on Terschelling Island (patrol-ship sunk); convoy off Norderney Island (2 merchantmen, 6,000 and 3,000 tons, believed sunk). R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweeps over English Channel and N. France, including raid on Pont-a-Vendin power station, near Lens. R.A.F. night bomber raids on **Duisburg-Ruhrort, Dusseldorf, Cologne** and elsewhere in the Ruhr and Rhineland.	3 day bombers 1 day fighter (losses, if any, in night raids have not been announced)	7 day fighters. 1 night fighter.
July 1, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps (no opposition). R.A.F. day bomber raid on Oldenburg (railway yards, canal, barges); seaplane base on Borkum Island. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at **Brest** (battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*, cruiser *Prinz Eugen*) and Cherbourg. R.A.F. night fighter attack on aerodrome in N. France.	3 day bombers. 2 night bombers.	3 day fighters.

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TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK

The Russo-German war continues with unabated vigour and ferocity. After the initial gains the German advance appears to have been checked at various points. M. Stalin's instructions as to destruction of everything of value to the Germans before Russians retired is being scrupulously followed. Many big battles have been fought and many more are in prospect. Stubborn resistance and counter-attacks are being daily reported.

In Syria, Deir ez Zor and Damour have been captured by Indian troops. Deir ez Zor is on the Euphrates, 120 miles to the north-east of Palmyra. Beirut is being surrounded. An Allied column has also occupied without opposition post No. 4 on the Mosul oil pipeline which is one-third on the way to Homs. There is a report that Beirut has been captured.

Owing to the pressure of the local population and British successes and especially as Vichy is unable to send reinforcements, General Dentz has been compelled to ask for armistice. There is a prospect of the Syrian campaign ending soon, in which as Mr. Churchill said, 1,000 to 1,500 British, Australian and Indian soldiers have been killed or wounded by French bullets.

A feature of the Abyssinian campaign in the week is the surrender of General Gazzera in Galla Sidamo. Numerous prisoners and much booty have fallen into Allied hands. There is still an Italian garrison at Gondar which is being hemmed in and small batches of Italian soldiers have dispersed into the wild country south-west of Assab.

It is announced that Lord Halifax, the British Ambassador in Washington, will soon return to Britain to report to the British Government about his mission. There may be no special significance in this; it will be remembered that Ambassador Winant recently went to Washington to report to his Government.

Striking naval successes have been announced. Four enemy patrol vessels were destroyed and another probably sunk and three damaged by British bombers in the North Sea. An Italian cruiser was sunk by a British submarine in the Mediterranean. The cruiser had a displacement of 10,000 tons and a complement of 700. In addition, three supply ships were torpedoed and sunk while an armed merchant cruiser of 9,000 tons hit by a torpedo was left in a crippled condition. In the channel 20,000 tons of enemy shipping is reported to have been damaged by R.A.F. probably destroyed.

A remarkable event was the announcement made in Washington that United States naval forces have arrived in Iceland. President Roosevelt in a special message to the Congress said that these forces will supplement the British forces which will remain there. President Roosevelt told Congress that a German occupation of Iceland would constitute a serious threat in three ways: "A threat against Greenland and the northern portion of the American continent, including the island lying off it, a threat against all shipping in the Atlantic, and a threat against the steady flow of munitions to Britain which is a matter of broad policy clearly approved by Congress." The occupation has been received with great satisfaction and relief in America and in England.

Eight conditions were stipulated by the Iceland Prime Minister, M. Jonasson before this step was taken and the United States has accepted them. They involve the withdrawal of these forces after the war, the recognition by the United States of America of the absolute independence and sovereignty of Iceland and the ensuring of the absolute safety of the inhabitants by efficient organization and defence, etc. Some newspapers say that this occupation was an insurance against a sudden attack on the United States while others incline to the view that it was a long step towards 'shooting,' i.e., involvement of the United States in the war. There is demand that similar action should be taken by the occupation of certain strategic places on the Western coast of Africa which are likely to be used by Germany in the Battle of the Atlantic, e.g. The Azores, Dakar, etc. Germany is perturbed and angry; the American occupation is described as offering provocation to Nazis. Mr. Churchill has welcomed it as a forestalling action designed to secure the safe arrival of American help in Great Britain.

GENERAL WAVELL AND GENERAL AUCHINLECK

A remarkable statement has been made by General Sir Claude Auchinleck, the new Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East. He declared that there would be need for American man-power in this war in 12, 14 or 24 months. As regards the German aims, the General said that Germans would try to push through to the Caucasus from where they would make for Baku, the aim being to compel Britain to draft large forces from India and the Middle East. Perhaps Turkey also would be forced into doing what Germany wanted. He also said that an opportunity may recur for the Middle East being used as a jumping off place to obtain a foothold in the Balkans and he thought that the people of the Balkans would not think of sitting down for years under the present conditions of life, imposed by Germany. While on this subject, it may be useful to indicate the general considerations and background for the appointment of Sir Archibald Wavell as Commander-in-Chief in India and of Sir Claude Auchinleck to the Middle East. The defences of India require a good deal of co-ordination. It is very significant that the defence of Iraq will be transferred to the Indian Command and will be the responsibility of General Wavell. General Wavell has won the admiration and gratitude of the whole world. He has shouldered many heavy burdens and responsibilities. He led five different campaigns in widely-spread areas and under varying conditions. India will of course benefit by his vast experience and great qualities. He is known to have first-hand experience of Russia and a command of the Russian language, somewhat rare among the British Generals. He has also made an intense study of supply problems in the Middle East. As for General Auchinleck, his organizing capacity and sympathy with Indian views has won him great appreciation in India and it may well be expected that his presence in the immediate fighting front would be crowned with success.

TWO NOTABLE STATEMENTS

Two remarkable utterances were made in the week. The first was by President Roosevelt in which he said that there was not only need for unity but there was need for speed, efficiency, toil and an end to backbiting and sabotage. "The pledge to our country and our flag" he added, involved "our work, our will and if it be necessary, our lives." Turning to isolationists, he said, "It is indeed a fallacy based on no logic for any Americans to suggest that the rule of force can defeat human freedom in all other parts of the world and allow it to survive in the United States alone; but it has been that child-like fantasy, that misdirected faith, which has led nation after nation to go about its peaceful tasks relying on the thought, even the promise, that it and its life and its Government would be allowed to live when the Juggernaut of force rolls on." "We cannot in these days," he added "save freedom with pitchforks and muskets."

The other speech was by Mr. Eden. He declared, "We are not in any circumstances prepared to negotiate with Hitler at any time on any subject." He further pointed out: "We shall intensify our war effort until Hitler and all he stands for is utterly destroyed. There is no room on the earth's surface for Hitler's way of life and ours." Turning to the new order, Mr. Eden pointed out, "A dual task confronts us—to win the war and win the peace. We seek no material gain. We claim neither territory nor prize. We have but one aim—to break the power of the tyrant Hitler so that nations may be free to build a saner and happier world in security and peace. To this end we dedicate our work and our lives. If we have courage and faith we shall not fail."

INDIAN SOLDIERS GAIN FRESH LAURELS

The Allied troops continue to register satisfactory progress in Syria. Following the surrender of the Vichy garrison at Palmyra, Indian troops proceeded to occupy Deir ez Zor, on the Euphrates, 120 miles to the north-east of Palmyra. These Indian soldiers had entered Syria from the Iraqi frontier at Kemal. Both Palmyra and Deir ez Zor provide bases for operations directed towards the chief cities of North Syria, Homs, Ham and Aleppo. Indian troops have already captured Demir Kapous near the Istanbul-Baghdad railway and mechanized troops are advancing towards Homs. In the south, Australian troops crossed river Damour and entered Beirut, chief port of the Lebanon. They were helped a great deal by bombardment of coastal defences by the British Navy. That the Syrian population is wholly behind the Allied cause is evident in the reports of numerous risings in Beirut before it was occupied and of sabotage behind the enemy lines; for instance, a fully loaded ammunition train blew up when it struck a land-mine between Beirut and Rayak. And the Royal Air Force, besides concentrating its bombs on military targets in Beirut, sees to it that no reinforcements reach Syria from Vichy. A Vichy vessel, Saint Didier, carrying reinforcements and arms to Beirut, was abusing Turkish territorial waters and flying the Turkish flag when it was attacked and sunk by British aircraft.

GENERAL DENTZ SUES FOR ARMISTICE.

There was, therefore, little surprise when General Dentz, Vichy's High Commissioner in Syria, sued for armistice. The British made known their terms. These have not been officially announced but it is understood they consist of ten points; the more important of them are: Britain has no territorial designs on Syria or Lebanon but merely wants to ensure that these will not be used

by the enemy as land or sea bases; the French interests will be safeguarded by the Free French within the framework of independence guaranteed to Syria by Britain; the Vichy forces to hand over intact all munitions, guns, planes, equipment and warships and to guarantee that there will be no further damage to the means of communications; all Vichy troops to be given the option of declaring for General De Gaulle or of being repatriated; Syria to be part of the sterling bloc; all German and Italian representatives to be handed over to the British (the Italian Armistice Commission left Syria on Thursday); warships to be left in harbours to be kept up by the British who will be responsible for them. An Italian report states that Vichy has rejected these terms but it is difficult to see how they can hope to carry on the fight against the Allies. In any case, the Allied operations are going on relentlesly. Beirut has been occupied after an ultimatum from General Sir Maitland Wilson, calling for peaceful surrender of the town in order to avoid needless bloodshed, had expired.

ABYSSINIA IS NO MORE ITALIAN

Italian resistance throughout Mussolini's East African Empire is virtually at an end with the surrender of the Italian forces in Galle Sidamo. A British communiqué, announcing this, said: "General Gazzera, the Supreme Commander of the remaining Italian forces in Abyssinia, has surrendered together with all the Italian forces operating in the province of Galla Sidamo. Except for the Italian garrison at Gondar, which is now hemmed in by Empire and Patriot forces and a small column which has dispersed into the wild country south-west of Assab, Italian resistance in Eritrea, Abyssinia and Italian Somaliland has now been brought to a successful close.

General Gazzera, whose act puts the seal on the top of the lightning British campaign, is a former Italian War Minister. He is 62. His surrender was followed by that of nine more Italian Generals; and 5,000 prisoners were captured. The Libyan front has been quiet but the Royal Air Force has continued its systematic raids on Derna, Benghazi and Tripoli and also bombed Palermo in Sicily. A British submarine has sunk an Italian cruiser (10,000 tons) in the Mediterranean. These British successes are especially noteworthy when seen against the little damage that enemy aircraft have been able to inflict on Malta, Alexandria or Cyprus and they are an insurance against large-scale enemy reinforcements and supplies reaching Africa. On the other hand a very large contingent of South African troops has now reached North Africa for active service and will fight side by side with the British Army of the Nile. The special War Cabinet delegate, Captain Oliver Lyttelton, has taken up his headquarters in Cairo and he has confirmed General Wavell's statement that the Allies' military position in the Middle East is satisfactory. One of the most encouraging features of the situation is the regular arrival of ships in the Red Sea, bringing American supplies.

THE OBJECTIVES OF GERMANY

If any one act of Germany has made the existing war into a world conflict, it is the attack on Russia. Hitler's ambition for world domination should be secured at lightning speed or he would suffer a catastrophe. His object in attacking Russia must have been conceived many months ago. For, he had been trying to isolate Russia by diplomatic action in the same way as he has done in respect of other countries. The conclusion of the German-Turkish Pact, following the subordination of Hungary and Rumania which secured him the right flank, was the culminating act of this plan. The conquest of the Balkan Peninsula, the seizure of the whole Aegean archipelago between Europe and Asia and then Crete, made Russia weak and enabled Germany to get a stranglehold over Turkey. Of course the Turks are British friends, but they are obviously no longer free agents. Not only has Russia been isolated but the Germans have been tightening their grip over Finland in the north and exploiting Ukrainian nationalism.

Many things have been said about the objectives of Germany in attacking Russia. The economic reasons are obvious. Hitler wants the Baku oil, the minerals and the wheat of Ukraine. The 29,000,000 tons of petroleum a year which Baku and Grozny can produce will greatly help the Nazis and the fertile fields of Kuban Ukraine will nearly make up for Germany's food deficit. Hitler is now pretty sure that the war is going to be one of long duration and the control of these resources will enable him to hold out very much longer than he would otherwise be able to do.

A manifesto has been issued by the Germans to the Russian people in which it is said that the object of the invasion of Russia is 'to restore religious freedom.' What significance can be attached to this statement cannot be in doubt after the way in which the Nazis have closed the Russian Theological Faculty in Paris and attacked religion in occupied countries by the arrests of the clergy, suppression of religious institutions and the imprisonment and even killing of those loyal to their faith. The cry of a crusade against Bolshevism has also no meaning, because Hitler did not scruple to embrace Bolshevism in 1939 when it suited his purpose. This argument has now been advanced in order to make Britain and America deceive themselves as to Germany's real objective, but this game has been seen through. It has also been said that another reason for the German attack on Russia is domestic. There is considerable discontent in Germany and there is evidence that Hitler has lost the confidence of many people.

But the real objective is political and military. He hopes to strike hard and strike quickly, thus paralysing the nerve centre of the Soviet Union and bringing about widespread disorganization. It should not have been difficult for Hitler to secure the economic gains by the familiar process of negotiation under extreme military pressure. Instead of following that procedure, Hitler has ulanned and launched a gigantic offensive without giving the victim the option of paying a fine. Why has he done so? This is because he has found that Great Britain could not be expelled from the Middle East and the Mediterranean as a preliminary to launching an attack on Britain itself and further he found that Anglo-American co-operation was taking a shape much to his dislike and that the Red Sea had been cleared for the flow of American supplies so that ultimately there was a prospect of Great Britain gaining superiority in equipment in the East as well as in the West. Therefore Hitler decided that he should attack Russia first and then the British Empire. He has, it is said, 225 complete divisions with 14 armoured divisions and with the aid of his air force he can strike west against Britain or south through Iran and Iraq to the Suez and India. Russia, defeated and humbled, could be broken up into several units with puppet governments and Hitler would gain slave labour and the products of the Russian wheat lands, forests, mines and oil-fields.

SNAGS IN THE WAY

Of course there are snags in the way. Germany is encountering numerous difficulties in occupied countries and the conquest of Russia would only add to such difficulties—such as maintenance of huge armies of occupation. It is obvious that there can be no lasting peace under such war-time conditions. Again Russia is not such a defenceless country as one may imagine. In trained and semi-trained man power Russia is superior. It does not lack in equipment, though arrangements in regard to maintenance and repair may not be up-to-date. The Russian soldier is not a defeatist, especially in the defence of his homeland. Russian tanks and aeroplanes may not come up to German standards but they are numerous. The mili- recently, " It was the Russian soldier that had efficient as the German is however vast and formidable, having its supply bases far away from the western front. Further, the broad gauge railways in Russia may not be of much use to the Germans unless they capture large quantities of Russian rolling stock. Of course, wishful thinking is harmful. If the Russian General Staff can produce inspired leadership and if the industries and communications are maintained in efficient condition, the Russian armies cannot be easily put out. The Five Year Plans have given Russia her own technicians and the gap between men and officers has been bridged and her distances, morasses and her climate might render Hitler's plans ineffective. As Sir Bernard Pares has stated recently " It was the Russian soldier that had more imagination, initiative and resource; he could fight in open order, he won all bayonet attacks hands down, he has all the tricks of partisan warfare and the German is an enemy whom he meets with the greatest resentment." The strength of the Soviet fleet is impressive, though its efficiency is not known. The submarine strength is not to be despised.

TASK OF THE NON-AXIS WORLD

Very much indeed depends upon the attitude of the non-Axis world towards this crisis. There is a real threat both to the cause of Democracies and civilization in general. The attitude of America apart from that of a few isolationists is entirely favourable to Russia. Neither the German cry against Bolshevism nor any feeling of complacency resulting from Germany having to meet enemies both in the east and in the west, has disturbed American determination to rush help to Great Britain. There is a widespread feeling that the war, as has been stated recently, is, was and has always been Hitler's war and that, as the real objective is the crushing of Hitlerism, help should be provided to all those who are up against Nazism. America has, of course, a great chance to strike a blow by rushing all available resources to Great Britain. It may be that such a grand plan as Hitler has placed before himself has never been successfully accomplished in the past. That is no guarantee that it cannot be attained to-day. What must be prevented at any cost and at any sacrifice is the establishment of Hitler in a position of dominant power. It would be difficult to challenge that domination once it is obtained. The non-Axis nations are alive to the danger and what is necessary is that they should galvanise themselves into a concerted and unprecedented effort in time.

GERMAN CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

INVADERS SUSTAIN HUGE LOSSES

It is now becoming clear that Hitler is not having his own way in Russia. After a fortnight's operations on a vast front, the Russians are fighting as well as ever. True, they have lost territory—mostly not belonging to Russia proper, but annexed since the start of the present war in 1939—but the Germans, as they attack the ' Stalin Line ' of the main Russian defences, are running into more trouble. The Russians have launched successful counter-offensives in various sectors and American wireless commentators take an optimistic view of their prospects. Mr. Martin Agronsky of the (American) National Broadcasting Corporation says that the German High Command have given up hopes of the quick victory which they expected at the start of the campaign.

An indication of the slowing down of the Nazi advance is given by their latest communiques, which are not so free with claims and promises as those of last week. And many of the latter have now been proved to be false. For instance, the German claim to have captured the Arctic port of Murmansk and thus cut off a valuable supply-route has been contradicted by the Germans themselves who are now content to announce that they carried out a bombing attack on that port. Nor has the railway to the south been cut as they gleefully announced. And their claim that thousands of Russian soldiers have deserted after shooting their Political Commissars does not bear scrutiny in view of the fact that the Russian Government abolished the post of Political Commissars in the army some months ago.

GERMAN ADVANCE

This is not to minimize the gravity of the situation facing the Soviet High Command. But they have kept a cool head in face of the initial successes won by the Germans. And these successes are disquieting enough. Along with the Hungarians and the Rumanians, the Germans have made progress in the Galician and Bessarabian sectors and claim the occupation of the whole of Bessarabia, even if they and the Finns have gained no successes south of the Karelian Isthumus. In fact, on the northern front, the only success the Germans claim now is the capture of the fortified position of Salla. A Hungarian communique claims that the Dneister has been crossed at some points while Cernauti, the most important town in Bukovina, the former Rumanian province, has fallen to the invaders though only after the retreating Russians had set on fire and destroyed everything likely to be of use to the enemy. And the Nazi column east of Minsk is attempting a new pincer movement similar to that which sought to encircle the Soviet troops in the Bialystock area. The northern claw of the pincers is probing the Lepel area on the upper reaches of the Beresina and the southern claw is thursting through the Bobruisk region near Minsk. The point at which the pincers would close if the manoeuvre was successful is Smolensk. German pressure on both the points is extremely violent, but so far it appears that only light German elements have crossed the Beresina river. Smolensk has just been subjected to severe bombing from the air but the "Battle of the Rivers" is still being fought stubbornly and the Germans are as far from Moscow as ever, this lending point to the sly hit of M. Lozovsky, Chief of the Russian Information Board, that the difference between Hitler and Napoleon is that while the latter at least reached Moscow, Hitler must content himself with a photograph of the Russian capital.

It is beyond doubt that the German advance has slackened and there are three possible reasons—the successful Russian guerilla tactics in the ' occupied ' territory, the necessity to overhaul German tanks after the strenuous struggles of the last few days and the uselessness of German rolling stock on the wider Russian tracks. The Official German News Agency, announcing that the spearhead of the German advance has reached the Stalin Line on a wide front, admits that "operations are entering a new phase and violent fighting is to be expected." The ' Stalin Line ' says the Agency cannot be compared with the Maginot Line, but it seems to have been constructed so as to derive the utmost benefit from the terrain which is favourable for defence. There are also fresh field fortifications constructed since the beginning of the war and while Russian troops are retiring to these positions, reserves have been brought up from the hinterland.

RUSSIAN COUNTER-ATTACKS.

The fight for the Stalin Line will dominate the picture in next week's fighting.

Meanwhile, the Red Army has counter-attacked at many points. Thousands of German dead, with the wreckage of shattered Nazi tanks and crippled aircraft, litter the banks of Dvina River in White Russia after one of the fiercest battles yet fought on the Eastern Front. In a big Soviet counter-attack, the Germans were hurled back across the river which they had managed to force near Polotsk, some 120 miles north-east of Minsk. "The greater part of the attacking enemy troops found their grave at the bottom of the river" is the grim sentence with which the Soviet communiqué concludes its account of the battle. The counter-attack was one of the three smashing blows delivered by the Russians last week-end, one in the north against German

forces aiming at Leningrad and two further south against the main prongs of the German pincer drive along Napoleon's road to Moscow. In the other two sectors Russians say heavy fighting is still going on. The Nazi High Command, reverting to the reticence that marked its communiques during the first week of Hitler's campaign against Russia, gives no details of the latest fighting. It merely claims that "operations against the so-called Stalin Line are being continued according to plan." The Germans, indeed, announced once that they had broken through the Stalin Line but the Russians immediately countered this claim with the statement that, after allowing German tanks to advance seven miles, they closed in on the latter and destroyed them. A Russian communiqué of July 9, states that Russian forces with "short sharp blows" inflicted heavy losses on the Germans in the Polodsk sector. In the Lepel region two German motorised regiments and four heavy artillery batteries were wiped out. A German retreat westwards of the Lepel region is announced in the Russian communiqué. The Russian communiqué continues that, having left hundreds of dead on battlefield, the enemy retreated in a westerly direction. The Russians fought non-stop German tank and motorised troops in the direction of Novograd Volynsk and checked the advance to the east. The Russian Air Force hammered German motorised and mechanised units and aerodromes day and night. One hundred and two German aircraft were destroyed in combat and on the ground. And a communiqué announced the next day that the Russians disposed of another German motorised division in the Lepel area, inflicted a severe defeat on the enemy in the Borisov sector and halted all German attacks in the Novograd Volynsk region. The Soviet Air Force destroyed 100 German tanks, bombed the Rumanian port of Constanza and landed parachutists in the outskirts of Helsinki. As against this, the Germans, in their latest communiqué, make the rather tall-claim that "with the conclusion of the double battle at Bialystok and Minsk, they captured over 3,23,000 prisoners and the greatest amount of war material in the world's history." Earlier, the German paper *Angriff* had petulantly complained that the Russians, true to M. Stalin's directions to leave only "scorched earth" behind, had completely burnt Minsk before evacuating it and that the German soldiers, on entering the town, were greeted only by smouldering ruins and hidden snipers.

SOVIET STRATEGY.

Every plane, gun and modern device, every man, who can be concentrated to ensure rapidity of destruction are being thrown in the struggle energetically and ruthlessly by the Nazi General Staff. Fortunately for Russia and her Allies, the Russian military doctrine is also based on total war. It is now evident that Russian preparations have been on a great scale and they have not failed to note that the efficiency of planes, tanks and artillery are not in themselves sufficient to ensure victory against great masses. The Russians are now bringing up their own masses of well-equipped troops into action. Moreover, it is also apparent that they recognise that the modern idea of "defence in depth" does not mean merely a number of fortified posts and forts, scattered in however deep a belt, and purely static and defensive action. On the contrary, the offensive of to-day—the break-through by powerful motorized columns, followed by large numbers who will then develop encirclements—can only be met by the use of equally powerfull and large masses in reserve who will come forward and assume the offensive against the enemy's advanced forces. So in the end you come to a decision being sought and gained in an encounter where offensive spirit, employing strong forces of artillery, tanks and planes, is the guide to victory. These principles the Russians seem to be putting into resolute action.

M. Lozovsky states that the Russian Government have no intention of allowing the Germans breathing-space. He points out that the front is not a straight line but a wide zigzag in which mobile forces are operating. Whenever a German unit stops, it is immediately counter-attacked and, as likely as not, destroyed. This high Soviet official claims that the Russians, in twelve days, inflicted 700,000 casualties on the Germans and destroyed 1,500 German planes and 2,500 tanks. To these must be added the German naval units destroyed in the Baltic and Black Seas. A German submarine struck a mine in the Gulf of Finland and was destroyed early this week and two German destroyers were sunk in the Gulf of Riga by the Soviet Navy. Now that all the members of the British Military Mission have reached Moscow, it may be confidently expected that the co-ordination of Russian and British efforts will see the Germans suffer more and more losses.

THEN AND NOW

A STUDY IN CONTRASTS

The following comparison between the war situation last year and that in the present, prepared by a close and diligent observer, will be read with interest.

Lord Salisbury once said that the Russian danger to the North-West frontier was greatly mitigated by a study of large scale maps. In the same way a large scale view of time will greatly help in putting the present situation into proper perspective. Those who, comparing the week of victory at the end of March with the events of April, feel anxious or depressed, should adopt this method. They should survey the political and military field with long-range binoculars rather than magnifying glasses if they would know the true state of the campaign. You cannot see a landscape through a microscope.

This comprehensive view is exactly what Mr. Churchill has given us in his great broadcast of April 27, 1941. Without denying or belittling a single unfavourable factor, he has shown the world that there are no grounds for complacency, good grounds for hope and every ground for confidence in ultimate victory.

What are the tests which can be applied to our positions and prospects? The following may be suggested :—

Actual strength.—The actual strength and positions of the forces engaged. Existing strength suggests the likely result of a short or immediate battle.

Reserves.—A country which has accumulated reserves of material is obviously better off than a country with an even larger front line but an inadequate replacement reserve. Reserves determine the length of time during which a battle can be sustained. The Polish, the Dutch and the Yugoslav air forces were destroyed because they had no such reserves. Once their original fighter strength was exhausted in a heroic struggle against enormous odds, their lands and cities were a helpless prey to a foe who is never so ruthless and ferocious as when he meets no opposition.

Productive Capacity.—This means the the power to produce and so, by replenishing or enlarging the reserves, to maintain or increase the front line strength. In modern conditions this is mainly a question of industrial plant with, as a necessary corollary, access to raw materials.

Spirit or Morale.—The will behind the machines is still a fundamental factor in modern war as in all other previous conflicts. The essential conditions of its operation are also still the same. One common mistake is to imagine that morale can triumph over every obstacle; another that morale is no longer a factor to be reckoned with, that war is now only an arithmetical exercise in adding up each side's tanks, guns, ships and planes and conceding victory to the larger number. The truth lies between these two extremes. Actually, morale is the duplication or division of the war materials available. Their potency is decreased or increased according to its quality.

THE DECISIVE FACTOR

Other things being equal, morale is always the decisive factor in war.—Other things not being equal (and they very rarely are), morale is still often the decisive factor, but a point may be reached when the inequality of materials may be so great that the noblest and staunchest spirit must struggle in vain.

All history, past and contemporary, confirms this. The phalanx and the disciplined valour of the Greeks gave Alexander the Great the victory over the far larger, well-equipped but disunited Persians of Darius. The French under Gambetta in 1870 struggled magnificiently against the Prussian army of Bismark and Moltke, but the loss of their regular army at Sedan and Metz was too great a handicap, and they were robbed of Alsace and Lorraine. The Abyssinians in 1935 fought heroically against Mussolini's tinsel army, but their obsolete muskets could do nothing against armoured cars, aircraft and poison gas.

Nelson at Trafalgar annihilated a more numerous and heavier fleet because the spirit of his fleet was superior. In this war the Poles were overwhelmed by a superior weight of metal, but the winter campaign, in Libya and Abyssinia, as well as the naval campaign in the Mediterranean, have shown that inferior forces with superior spirit can still triumph to-day as much as at Salamis and Marathon, when the disparity of strength is not too great.

Man-power.—In the war of 1914 man-power was a decisive factor as it has been ever since the French revolutionaries introduced conscription and mass armies. To-day it is so no longer. The development of air forces, armoured warfare on land and technical improvements at sea, are leading the world back to an era of specialization. In the 19th century the fundamental unit of land warfare was the man with a rifle. In general, the side with most disciplined riflemen won. To-day a million men with rifles are useless against an armoured division.

We are moving back to the days of the professional armies of the 18th century, when each unit required years of training and quantities of treasure to produce it. In the 16th century artillery was the talisman of victory; it gave Babur victory over Ibrahim, and the empire of India at Panipet. In the Middle

Ages the knight-in-armour corresponded to the armoured division—expensive, difficult to produce and so few in number, but irresistable against almost any number of bowmen or swordsmen.

For this reason there is no reason to be dismayed by the superior number of the German hordes. When France fell many people thought that superior numbers must overwhelm the stoutest hearted and largest possible British force. Time has shown that this was not so. Time did not work a miracle but merely demonstrated that man-power, pure and simple, is no longer the decisive factor in war that it has been for the past 150 years.

With these considerations in mind, it is possible to weigh the situation as it was a year ago, last April, again as it existed in July 1940, and as it exists to-day.

APRIL 1940—THE DREAM

At the beginning of April 1940, the Allies presented an apparently serried front to a single handed Germany. France, the world believed, had the best army in the world and a fine navy. Britain had the greatest fleet in the world and a fine army. Both powers had air forces with great traditions and though they were not equal in number to the German Luftwaffe, it was believed that they were at least its equal in quality and that both were increasing in number. Behind these forces lay vast productive capacities, not yet organised to the full and behind them again loomed the mighty industrial machine of America and the enthusiastic support of the Dominions with resources and population vastly greater than those of 20 years ago. Germany had overthrown Poland, but she faced the Maginot Line in the west, her submarine campaign had failed signally at sea, and her failure to raid Britain on a large scale was thought to be a sign of weakness in the air. This imposing facade deceived even Mr. Chamberlain who talked of Hitler missing the bus, when in fact he was just stepping out to board it.

MAY 1940—THE TRUTH

In the one brief month of April, 1940, all this vision vanished like a mirage and all informed people knew that the truth was far otherwise. In May disaster descended on the Allies, disaster which was only in part redeemed by the heroism of Dunkirk. What in fact was the truth? In two out of the four tests suggested it was clear that the Allies were inferior, in one, and that the most important, the position was doubtful, and only in one could it still be said the Allies held the advantage.

Actual strength.—Those eight weeks made it clear that the Germans were unquestionably superior in actual strength. They had more men, they had a great preponderance in armoured vehicles and they were strikingly superior in quantity in the air. They had produced a new heavy tank against which the existing anti-tank weapons were useless and they had developed a new technique of armoured warfare which differed almost as much from the tactics of the last war as canons and muskets differed from bows and arrows. Only at sea were they inferior, and the sea did not seem to be a decisive factor in the war at that time. The blockade was a weapon of slow strangulation and would avail nothing against a knock-out blow delivered by armoured might.

In *reserves* the Germans were equally superior. Throughout the winter, these events revealed, they had been producing war material to their full industrial capacity, unhindered by air action. The British war machine on the other hand was still only in low gear and the machine itself was not yet complete. British air strength was "accruing" and so was the gap between the Royal Air Force and Luftwaffe's numbers. The Meuse showed that the French had no reserves; Dunkirk that the British had none either.

In the vital matter of *morale* in which the Allies believed that they enjoyed an unquestioned superiority, a "rottenness in the state of Denmark" was revealed by the events of May. The neutrals Norway, Belgium, and Holland were wormeaten by fifth columnists, whose first incarnation and permanent name is Quisling. King Leopold's surrender was even more of a moral shock than a material loss. The collapse on the Meuse had shown that the white ants of defeatism were also at work in France and well informed people knew that the Lavals and Bonnets of Paris would soon break through the thin crust of patriotism and resistance which concealed their termite activities. Only Britain stood firm with a unity which grew closer with every blow and a resolution which braced itself more firmly to each new disaster. But Britain, as Mr. Churchill said, was only half or a quarter armed, and after Dunkirk her land forces had no arms at all for a while.

Production.—In the single item of *productive capacity* could the Allies still claim superiority, and this was only in *potential* capacity when the resources of Britain, the Dominions and America would be fully organised. But this would take months if not years. Never did the old proverb seem more true that "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." At the end of May 1940 the situation was known to be very serious by the general public, grave by the army leaders and almost desperate by the leaders of the country.

The American Barometer.—The American public's reactions form a valuable barometer of the Allied prestige and prospects. Cynical of British policy after Munich, America welcomed Britain's stand after Prague and was encouraging in the autumn of that year. Winter inaction brought indifference and complaints of a "phoney war", the May defeats

brought contempt which, though mitigated by admiration for the heroism of Dunkirk, settled down into a conviction that the Allies had lost the war.

JULY 1940—A SEA OF TROUBLES

Time marches on two months. It is mid-July 1940. The picture is even more gloomy on the surface.

France had collapsed, amidst an exhibition of inefficiency, Quislingism, and contempt for obligations which eclipsed all neutral records. Not the body only but the soul also of France seemed to be rotten; and the country's leaders seemed ready, out of sheer senile decay or for the sake of keep, to stab in the back her tried friend of 40 years.

Italy had heard as she thought the cry of the tiger about to kill, and had started on her jackal's march in the hope of picking up some discarded morsels of the carcase.

Only *Britain* still stood firm, inspired by such leadership and fortified by such resolution as has never been surpassed even in her rough island story. But what were her resources? Her armies were deprived of their materials at Dunkirk, and even the bravest men armed with scythes and shot guns cannot stand against overwhelming material force. The Channel was exposed throughout its length, a condition under which it was always assumed in the last war that Britain could not continue fighting. Her sea routes and approaches were laid open by the defection of France. Her influence in the Danube basin had vanished. Her secret enemies rejoiced.

The French Fleet had been handed over to the Germans and the saving grace of Oran had been twisted by Laval and his minions into a treacherous attack on her old ally. Her commerce lay open to attack by air and sea from the French and Norwegian coasts, by Italian as well as German submarines, and largely unprotected owing to the lack of escort vessels. Her air force was intact and confident but heavily outnumbered. The Dominions were staunch but distant, America admiring but pessimistic. Britain lay hourly expecting the promised aerial attack and invasion, and apart from the Royal Air Force had little but stout hearts with which to oppose it.

SUNSET GLORY?

To the outward observer Britain's position could hardly appear worse. It looked as though the words of Queen Victoria "One day England will be too late" were about to come true, and that Britain would go down, in a blaze of defiant glory indeed, but still down to the bourn of lost causes and forgotten empires.

The question was whether the magnificent spirit of the people, working to capacity and the limit of human endurance, could prevail against the overwhelming material force of the enemy? Could they hold out long enough for this potential superiority of production to become actual? Above all, could they last out the summer against the promised and hitherto irresistible Nazi blitz? The spirit of the people had already written an imperishable page in the battlescarred history of Britain, but would that page be the last? A new Pitt had arisen in Churchill, the pilot had braved the storm but could he weather it? Drake's drum was beating in the Channel; England was in deadly peril.

MAY 1941—BRITAIN AWAKES

Time marches on to May 1941. To anyone who remembers the position a year ago, to anyone acquainted with the then odds against Britain, the transformation which appears is little short of miraculous. The "island set in a silver sea" still stands, her fleet still rules the sea, her ships still bring her food and war materials. Her spirit is still undaunted, her people as resolute as before. Her cities are battered, her national monuments despoiled, her airmen and sailors are tried to the limit but they hold on. Her people, bombed out of house and home, are at work as hard and more grimly than before.

Britain strikes.—All this is true, but it is only half the truth. Britain not only stands, she has hit back. Since Goering's defeat in the Battle of Britain, Britain has ruled the daylight air over Britain and has passed on to the offensive over the enemy coast as well. The Army of the East and the Fleet have dealt such blows at Italy that the new Roman Empire has become, in a few weeks, a despised appanage of the German Reich. Abyssinia has received back its Emperor after five years of exile, the first of the exiles, as Mr. Churchill significantly remarked, but not the last to return. The royal Duke of Aosta, in his turn, has gone into exile. Japan prepared to despoil Britain in the east but has thought better of it and is visibly hesitating.

THE BAROMETER RISING

Above all the American barometer has been steadily rising. Admiration mixed with pessimism changed during the Battle of Britain to admiration tinged with hope. *Willingness* to send supplies to Britain at a price has changed to a *determination* to send supplies without stint or limit and without requital till the end of the war. From an attitude of "all help which is paid for," America has passed first to "all help short of war," and now to "all help and war too if that is necessary".

Americans who thought 18 months ago that Britain was nearly as rotten as France, and last summer that her sun was grandly setting in a blood-red glow, have discovered (like Mark Twain in the Alps) that they were really

beholding a rising sun on the following morning. " Britain " said the President in words which rang round the world, " wants ships, planes and tanks. She shall have ships, planes and tanks."

American help is to be total help.

The landmarks of this change-over of American opinion were Wendell Willkie's adoption as Republican Presidential candidate last July, President Roosevelt's re-election in November, the passing of the Lease and Lend Act in March and the exetnsion of the Patrol system at the beginning of May.

BALKAN CLOUDS

This is not the whole of the picture, it is true. Against the collapse of Italy, the liberation of Abyssinia and the rising tide of American help and sentiment must be placed the German penetration of the Balkans, the overwhelming of Yugoslavia and Greece, the revolt in Iraq and the loss of Cyrenaica and Crete. But was not the fact of Greek resistance to Italy last October a proof of the rising confidence of the world in the outcome of Britain's resistance " contra mundum "? Was not the Yugoslav *coup d'etat* proof that after nearly a year's experience of the New Order in Europe a brave people preferred almost certain temporary destruction to submission to its dictator? Has not the Greek campaign itself shown that on the British side a spirit moves which does not only prize material advantages, which does not only weigh physical considerations but looks beyond to the " imponderables " of honour and justice?

HITLER'S WITNESS.

The changed state of affairs has no truer witness than Hitler, who renders this service in spite of himself. In his new year message, Hitler promised victory to Germany before Christmas this year. On February 24, he threatened Britain with such an Atlantic attack as she had never imagined. Springtime was coming, he said, and he always felt good, as the Americans say, in spring. There was a little flaw in this speech, because he backed up his remarks with the spurious claim that 215,000 tons had been sunk in the previous 48 hours. Late in March, Dr. Goebbels was saying that Germany was morally bound to end the war this year. But time marches by Hitler too in spite of his necromancing and self-hypnotism. On May 4, he could only comfort his hearers by telling them they would have better weapons *next year*. The Golden Age for which the Germans have toiled for eight years, was postponed once more. Instead, they were to work much harder than ever, for longer than ever, for less than ever. Could any better proof be desired of the change in Britain's position in the last twelve months?

THE TEST REVIEWED.

The test already suggested may now be applied to Britain's present position.

Actual strength—The Sea.—Britain is relatively much stronger at sea than she was in July 1940, thanks to her huge shipbuilding programme, America's 50 destroyers handed over last September, and many lighter vessels transferred since. Britain has replaced her merchant shipping losses so far by neutral and allied accretions as well as by fresh construction. From next year she is assured of a great flow of American shipping, and in the interval is being helped by two million tons of American shipping which is releasing British ships in areas outside the combat zones.

Land.—On land, the German army is still superior both in numbers and armoured strength. But Britain's armoured strength has already proved sufficient to cause the indefinite postponement of invasion and to overthrow Italy. Man for man and tank for tank the British have been proved superior. Britain now produces as many tanks per month as she possessed altogether in January 1940. Tanks (unlike submarines and aircraft) can be mass produced and American war production is just beginning.

Air.—The Royal Air Force is now approaching parity with the Luftwaffe. American estimates give Britain a production of 1,500 planes per month, against German production of 1,500 to 2,000. In April, 414 American planes were handed over to Britain, as well as 35 to the Dutch East Indies. Total American production for May is expected to reach 1,600, double the figure of December last. By July, it is expected to be 1,800. Thus the gap is almost closed. It will soon begin to yawn on the wrong side for Germany. In the first half of May, Britain's bomb loads released on Germany were, for the first time in the war, heavier than the German loads on Britain. Night-fighters, by bringing down 130 German bombers in the first half of May, have begun to deal with the night bombing menace and so far Germany has achieved no similar success against British bombers.

Reserves.—Lord Beaverbrook stated recently that the Royal Air Force has a 100 per cent reserve of aircraft in underground dromes behind its front line. Military reserves of trained men are steadily accumulating. The Home Guard, twelve months ago an affair of sportsmen in plus fours with shot guns and golf clubs and of city men protected by bowlers and armed with walking sticks and umbrellas, is now a disciplined fighting force. Reserves of armoured materials are pouring from factories now in full production. Naval reserves have always existed and have never been depleted.

Productive Capacity.—Britain is now approaching her peak production. Germany achieved it last year since when, if anything,

it has declined an account of well directed air raids. German anxiety to increase production is revealed by her efforts to exploit French industrial capacity when she ought, according to the principles of the New Order, to be reducing France to the status of an agricultural supply tract for Germany, and above all, by Hitler's exhortation to his hard-pressed helots.

Behind Britain stand the *Dominions and India* who are now producing every variety of war material from small arms to tanks, aircraft, merchantmen and destroyers.

Behind the British Empire looms *America* whose production, just now getting into its stride, will not reach its peak until 1943. The flow of American material, last year but a trickle, is already substantial, and by next year will be a flood.

Behind the Maginot Line of factories lies the impalpable force of the *Blockade*. Germany is cut off from rubber, is short of oil, and gravely deficient in copper. "Oil, rubber and copper," said Lord Halifax recently "are three trump cards in the hands of the Allies."

Spirit or Morale.—In this vital matter three is no doubt of the enormous change in twelve months. It is German morale which is now in question. Who would have dared to prophesy a year ago that within 12 months, Hess, the third man in the Nazi hierarchy, would fly from his leader and friend of 20 years standing, in terror of his life? In the famous words of Pitt after Trafalgar, "Britain has saved herself by her exertions, and will save Europe by her examples". All the 14 countries with whose blood the hands of Hitler are stained have taken fresh courage and derived fresh hope from the British stand. Not one of them, from Norway to Greece, has settled down under the German jackboot.

The British and Greek spirit has extorted the admiration of the civilized world, which nowhere has found more eloquent expression than in America. After nine months of relentless bombing, London has raised £120,000,000 by voluntary subscription. The bombed cities and the battered ports carry on as usual. Criticism in Parliament is reserved for the man who is not thought to be doing all that could be done for the war effort. After a year of blood and sweat and tears as promised by Mr. Churchill, Britain "goes to it" more grimly and more confidently than before. Other things being equal, morale is the decisive factor in war. These other things are getting near equality, and morale must now tell.

Britain's most dangerous period was the first winter of complacency: her darkest hour was in June last year with the collapse of France. Her moment of deadly peril was in July when she lay practically defenceless before Nazi might and during the Battle of Britain in August and September. Her time of most severe and sustained trial is this summer when she must hold on in the Atlantic, the Middle and Far East, and in Britain itself pending the arrival of the full weight of American help.

The clouds are still dark and the thunder rolls, but rifts have begun to appear, and shafts of light to descend. The storm is no longer gathering; it has broken in full force and is now beginning to scatter.

"And Westward look, the land is bright."

WAR IN THE AIR—*(Continued from Page 5)*

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities, for the week ending 1st July 1941 :—

Figures of aircraft losses include those incurred during enemy attacks (not specifically mentioned) on shipping in North-West European waters.

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
June 25	Nil.	2 night bombers.
June 26	Nil.	....
June 27	Nil.	1 night bomber.
June 28	Nil.	....
June 29	Nil.	1 night bomber.
June 30	Nil.	....
July 1	Nil.	....

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Explaining it away

Crocodile tears dripped on to the microphone as Lord Haw Haw, on June 29, added his little piece to the quires of equivocation that have been read out from Berlin explaining away the war with Russia.

" It was a heavy imposition and a bitter ordeal," sniffed Haw Haw, " which the Fuehrer took upon himself when he tried to conciliate the Bolshevik racketeers of the Kremlin." But " the Feuhrer deemed it his duty to work for peace with the Russian State." Unfortunately the Feuhrer failed (for the first time, apparently). " Finland, Lithuania, Latvia, Esthonia and Rumania suffered Red invasion. . . . . . ".

In the meantime, of course, the Feuhrer, posing as the dove of peace, had set about the Nazi invasions of Poland, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium, Luxemburg, France, Greece and Yugoslavia—not to mention the " peaceful penetration " of Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria.

It was because he was so busy with his own invasion programme that Hitler waited until midsummer 1941 before he allowed his " conscience " to make itself heard and oblige him to punish the Russian " aggressor." All the world knows (including Stalin) that Hitler followed an appeasement policy in the East so that he could be free to move in the West and South. Russia never ceased to be included in his list of potential victims.

Haw Haw adds that " the intrigue which led to the fate of Yugoslavia was primarily promoted by Moscow." But at the time of the Belgrade *coup d'etat* Berlin did not dare to implicate Russia. All the abuse was directed against Churchill and Roosevelt. On March 26 the *Voelkischer Beobachter* wrote that Anglo-Saxon diplomacy had left no stone unturned to persuade Yugoslavia to risk a war against the Axis Powers, and Hitler himself, in his declaration of April 6, referred to " a military clique in British pay."

Of no account

" In this great conflict (Russo-German war," says Haw Haw, " we can leave Britain out of account. All that she has contributed to it so far is a mission of the gentlemen who have apparently advised Stalin very badly in the past and who, it is hoped, will advise him badly in the future."

On the contrary, the calibre of the men chosen to accompany Sir Stafford Cripps when he returned to Moscow indicates the British Government's intention fully to implement its pledge. The mission includes Rear Admiral Miles, who is a navigation specialist, and Lieut.-General Macfarlane, who is Britain's greatest authority on German military tactics. General Macfarlane was Director of Military Intelligence with the B. E. F. in France and was formerly British military attaché in Berlin while Hitler was creating his war machine.

Foreign legions

Berlin (June 29) reports that " more than 18,000 Spanish volunteers have signed on already for the struggle against Bolshevism." We are told that recruiting offices for volunteers have been opened in Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, and even " Independent Croatia." In addition Hitler has bullied the Governments of Finland, Rumania, Slovakia and Hungary into declaring war on Russia.

Yet Berlin never loses an opportunity of baiting Britain with the taunt that she gets " foreign legions " to do her fighting for her and of proclaiming that the German army is so powerful that it can manage any campaign single-handed.

Nazi monopoly

With an air of holding a monopoly on truth, the Nazis announce (June 28): " We have already pointed out that the assertions of the Soviet war *communiqués*, are too ridiculous to warrant a detailed refutation." A typical Russian *communiqué*, published on June 25, claimed that 383 enemy planes had been destroyed, but also admitted the loss of 374 machines . . . Compare this with the fantastic German claim (June 29) to have captured 2,233 Russian tanks and destroyed 4,107 aircraft.

"Few" went far

On the night of Thursday, June 26, the Royal Air Force carried out exceptionally heavy raids on the industrial heart of Germany—Kiel, Dusseldorf and Cologne. Yet Berlin (June 29), reporting these raids, says, " British planes dropped a few high explosive and fire bombs. . . . . . . .there were some losses among the civilian population."

If a few bombs can cause all the havoc inflicted on Thursday night on ship-yards and factories, then the Germans cannot complacently contemplate the day when, as Sir Gerald Campbell, British Minister in Washington, declared on June 29, " with unlimited supplies of war material we can take complete control of the air and land. . . . . . . ".

Half the story

Berlin (June 28) reports a "successful attack" on Malta by Italian bombers, carefully omitting the other half of the story. In this "successful attack" the Italians lost six Macchi fighters.

It is now becoming a habit of the Germans to announce that a topical talk is to be broadcast at a certain time and then to play music instead. Apparently, the Nazis are finding it more and more difficult to give a credulous explanation of Hitler's right-about face on the Russian question. Or is it because Goebbels' lie-factory has been appearing in the bomb-sights of Royal Air Force raiders over Berlin recently?

Churchill talks too much!

"Mr. Churchill's outspokenness," says Rome (June 28), "is well known to everyone, as also is his mania for revealing events, even when he knows that it would be more prudent to keep quiet." But only a few days before both Berlin and Rome were making great play of Churchill's order that the war at sea should be discussed in a secret session of Parliament and offering their condolences to the British public, who were being kept in the dark about the true situation.

On June 26, Berlin gibed at Mr. Churchill's "inconsistent attitude" towards Russia. This is, of course, sheer nonsense. While Hitler sang the praises of a "community of ideals between Nazism and Communism" when it suited his purpose, Mr. Churchill has always stuck to his views of Communism. Even in his broadcast on June 22 he declared :—

"No one has been a more consistent opponent of Communism than I have been for the last 25 years. I will unsay no word that I have spoken about it. . ." The British Premier has made it quite clear that his Government is joining hands with the Kremlin for no other reason than that they fight a common foe—Hitler and all that Hitlerism stands for.

"Masters of the daylight skies

Dr. Goebbels is working overtime, trying to cover up the *Luftwaffe's* abject failure to interfere with the Royal Air Force's mounting daylight offensive against Nazi positions in Northern France.

His bulletin on June 23, for instance, says: "On June 21 a few British bombers approached the French coast with a strong fighter escort. In a series of fierce aerial combats. German fighters shot down 26 British aircraft, while two further enemy machines were accounted for by German anti-aircraft guns and naval artillery."

But this is just a clumsy juggling act with the British *communiqué*, which shows that it was the Germans who lost 28 fighters that day—26 of them over French territory and two more near the English coast; British daylight losses were one bomber and three fighters, one of the pilots being saved.

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Axis and the Muslims

Never tired of parading their much-advertized friendship for Muslim countries, the Nazis in their Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of June 27 and 28 announced with great satisfaction that the Arabs regard the British as the worst enemy of the Muslims. In spite of the Nazis' lying propaganda, the Muslims of Alexandria and Damascus (who have been ruthlessly bombarded by these self-styled friends) have now seen for themselves what Nazi friendship means. The Egyptian paper *Al Masri*, while expressing gratification at the British Government's donation to Egypt of £1,000,000 for Air-raid Precautions, contrasts this generous gesture with "the fact that the Germans and Italians at the same time gave their friends, the Egyptian Muslims, the gift of death, destruction, ruin and bereavement." And as for Italy, Marshal Graziani, describing how he colonized Libya for his Duce, writes in his book *Roman Peace in Libya*; "To the population, the mobile police must be the bloodhounds who tear the rebels with their teeth; they must destroy them from day to day, man by man."

Britain and Damascus

So utterly at variance are Germany's professions with her practices that, just a day before the Nazis bombarded the open town of Damascus, their Persian broadcast of June 25 concocted stories of Britain's massacre of the civilians in Damascus and destruction of their mosques. It can, however, be categorically stated that, during the recent Allied advance on Damascus, no damage whatever was done to non-military objectives, and that the story of civilians' massacre is equally baseless. Further, in spite of Nazi propaganda, the Syrians cannot fail to contrast their fate with the Iraqis and remember that the French failed to develop their independence and in 1926 provoked a serious revolt during which they bombarded and wrecked Damascus.

Germany's "Aims"

The Nazis' Hindustani broadcast on June 26 represented the Finns as receiving the German forces as their liberators. The Nazi record in all the countries that they have over-run does

not, however, show that the Finns can expect any prosperity under their liberators' stewardship. Indeed, the German attitude was outlined by the German Agriculture Minister, Darré, in a speech delivered to Nazi officials in May 1940. He declared: "All the soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception and will be distributed primarily among worthy members of the Party . . . thus a new aristocracy of German masters will be created."

German Attack on Russia

The Nazi Radio's Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of June 22 state that the Fuehrer has ordered the German forces to wipe out the Soviet menace, and accuse Russia of having persisted in her anti-German activities. It will not be forgotten that it was with the same Government "representing the same Soviet menace" that Hitler signed a solemn pact in August 1939. And, as for Russia's anti-German activities, Hitler himself admitted in his Reichstag speech on July 17, 1940 (after Russia's move in Finland which is now represented to have been aimed against Germany, that "neither Germany nor Russia have overstepped her sphere of influence."

Exploiting Religious Sentiment

After having a pact with Russia for nearly two years and observing it just as long as it suited the German Fuehrer, the Nazis' Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of June 24 return to the theme that the Germans are fighting a holy war to rescue Europe from Bolshevism. This pious claim comes ill from the Nazis who have persecuted all Christian Sects which dared to oppose the Nazi paganism. For example, the late Pope Pius XI was obliged to admit that the Church in Germany was being persecuted to an extent that was "terrifying, grievous and lamentable in its far-reaching effects." And this prosecution is a deliberate violation of the Concordat with the Holy See, which the Nazis respect as little as they do their other "solemn pacts and pledges."

Relentless Bombing

Unable to deny the Royal Air Force's severe pounding of the heart of industrial Germany, the Nazis in their Hindustani and Persian broadcasts of June 27 claim to have destroyed 138 British planes between June 18 and June 25. Actually during the period June 18-24 the British lost 30 planes as against Germany's loss of 97. The intensity of the British offensive may also be judged by the fact that during the fortnight ended June 25 a greater tonnage of Royal Air Force bombs had been dropped on Germany than in the whole month of April, hitherto the month of heaviest British bombing.

Nazi Forfeit of the Seas

In their Hindustani broadcasts on June 26, the Nazis accuse the British propaganda of having made false claims about German shipping losses in the English Channel. In fact the Nazis have suffered heavy losses in their coastal traffic, which they appear to be very anxious to conceal. The seriousness of Germany's shipping position was inadvertently emphasized by Japan, when the Tokyo paper *Asahi* declared "Germany has suffered tremendous damage in no way comparable to the loss of the Robin Moor, by America's aid to Britain."

Germany and the Arab Countries

In their Hindustani broadcast of June 29, the Nazis quote a long article on the British enmity towards the Arabs which, we were told, was written by the ambassador of Iraq in Berlin. Iraq, however, broke off diplomatic relations with Germany soon after the outbreak of war and since then the only Iraq "ambassador" that the Nazi intrigue and bribery could manufacture was the traitor Rashid Ali who to-day, wholly discredited by his own people, is a fugitive from their justice. Besides, no amount of Nazi casuistry can cloud the essential fact, recognized by the Arabs themselves, that it is due solely to the British endeavour that the former provinces of the Ottoman empire like Saudi Arabia and Iraq are now independent States.

European Countries and Russia

"All the European countries," says Berlin's Hindustani broadcast, "have started taking part in the war against Russia." The emptiness of this characteristically Nazi boast will be seen when it is remembered that independent countries like Switzerland, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and Sweden are still neutral in this struggle. Besides, the true representatives of the European countries now groaning under the Nazi yoke, *i.e.*, Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands, General Simovitch of Yugoslavia and Johan Nygardsvold, the Norwegian Prime Minister, have all declared their sympathy for Russia in her fight against the aggressor.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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